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Letter dated 4 August 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the hearing which the Security Council held on 31 July 2000 concerning "Sierra Leone diamonds" and to the allegations made by the representative of the United States of America implicating the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the smuggling of arms to the Revolutionary United Front (RUF).

Once again, we categorically deny these utterly groundless allegations and strongly denounce their content and sources. Moreover, we demand that those who are trying to mislead the Security Council and public opinion by making random accusations should present evidence to back up their claims.

We would also like to draw the attention of the Security Council and public opinion to the significant and continuous efforts which the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is making at the highest political level to promote national reconciliation, peace and stability in the Republic of Sierra Leone. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, who has been kept informed of these efforts in detail, has expressed his satisfaction and gratitude in this regard.

The following are a few examples of the efforts made by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya:

- The Leader of the Revolution has communicated, *inter alia* by telephone, with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and a number of African leaders with a view to finding a speedy and peaceful solution to the crisis in Sierra Leone.
- The Leader of the Revolution sent his personal representative, the Secretary of the General People's Committee for African Unity, to Sierra Leone to make contact with the parties concerned in the Sierra Leone Government with a view to settling the conflict.
- The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made every effort to bring about the release of the detained Blue Helmets. Apart from these political initiatives, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya sent two helicopters to Liberia to transport the Blue Helmets who had been freed in Sierra Leone. Officers of the Libyan armed forces and medical specialists were also sent to the scene to supervise the transport operation, provide assistance and care for those in need of attention.

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– The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya recently informed the United Nations that it was willing to participate in the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Sierra Leone by providing a multidisciplinary military unit consisting of 570 people.

The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is making serious efforts to strengthen peace and security throughout the African continent, not only in Sierra Leone, while others are trying to destabilize the situation to serve their own interests. Without the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's sincere intervention and good offices aimed at finding peaceful solutions to conflicts and at promoting national reconciliation, peace and stability, many problems would not have been brought to a favourable conclusion.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(*Signed*) Ramadan A. **Barg**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.